Though by doing so,
they effectively sold their safety and relationships as well...
and chose to sell their time.
Most of the observers are people who came to the shop like you

Of course, that's only...
assuming I survive to see it.
Indeed I will.
If you sold thirty years, that means you'll be free in your forties?

...Oh well.
What if I told you it's not very interesting?
... Why would you need money that bad?

If I did,
maybe I would injure her.
Maybe I'd be adding another wound
like the big one on her knee.
Maybe I would take even more light
from her nearly pitch-black eyes.
Maybe once it was all over,
she'd just make a sarcastic remark,
as if totally unfazed.
...Were you satis-fied?

10,000 yen per year.
If I've been overly harsh with you,
I believe it's because of how you overlap with myself.
So I apologize for taking it out on you.

...Well, I don't wanna be rude,
but isn't that even more reason to just die already?
It means there's nothing to look forward to.
Yes, you're right.
You're absolutely right.

Even if you do make it to the end,
the best times of your life will be over.
Facing all this pain
and then starting your life at forty...
I would just call that a tragedy.

So it'd be better to sell it.
If my life-span were actually worth anything,
certainly I would do so.

What's it worth?
The same as yours.

Con-
tact
can be
made
instantly.
After that,
it wouldn't
take 20
minutes.
And
escape
would be
completely
impossible.

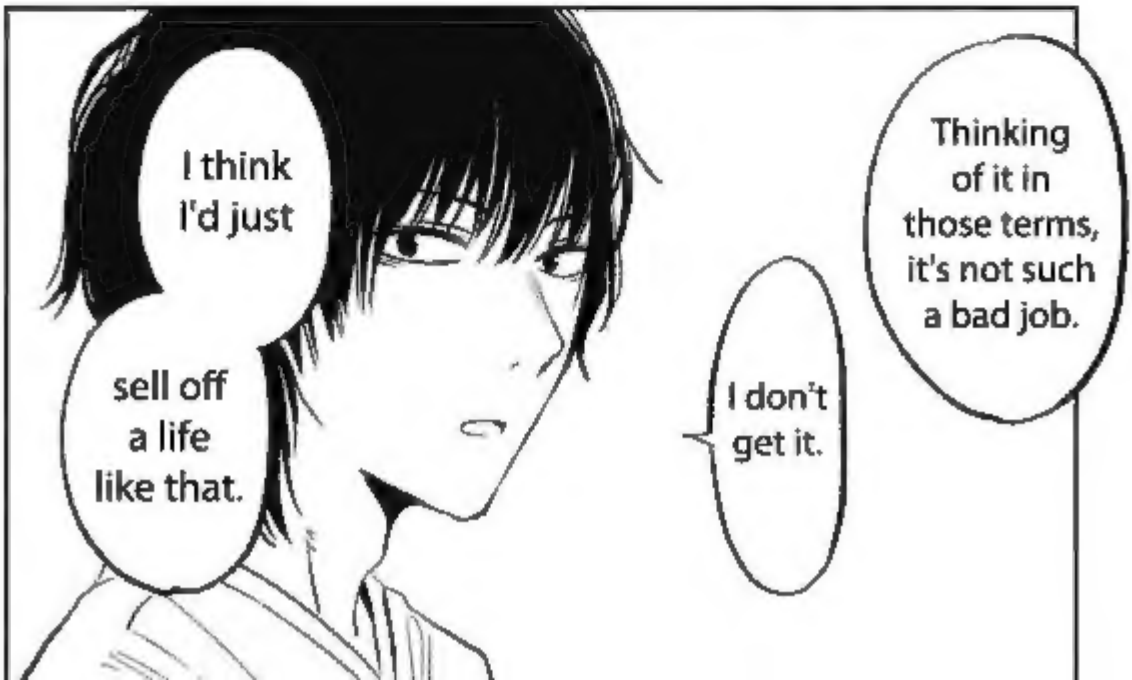
So, I'd
have about
ten-some
minutes to
act freely?

Nobody
said anything
like that.

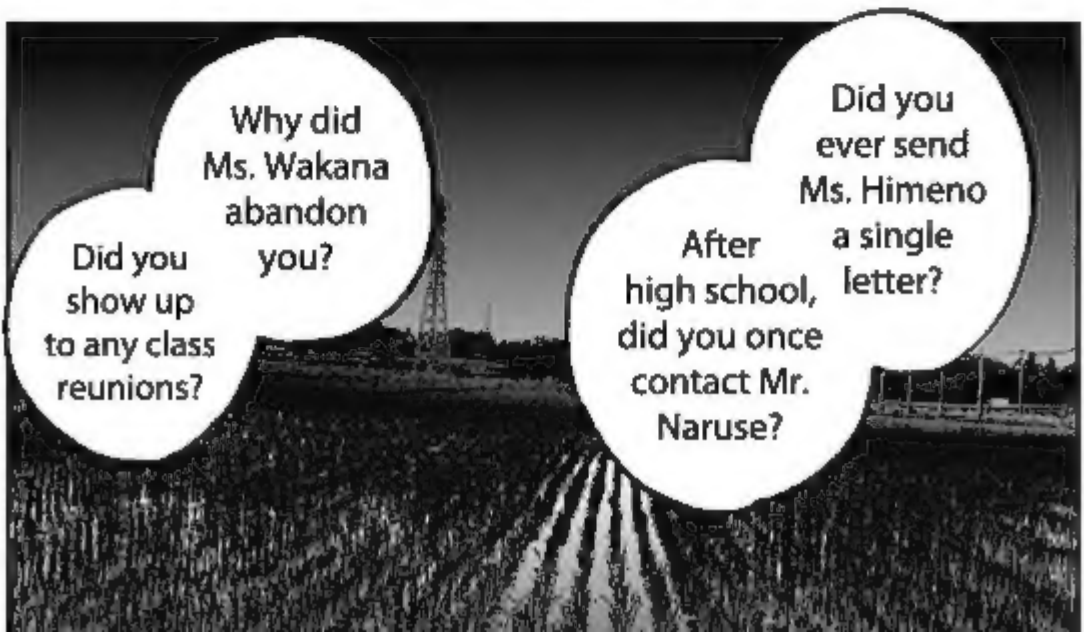
...

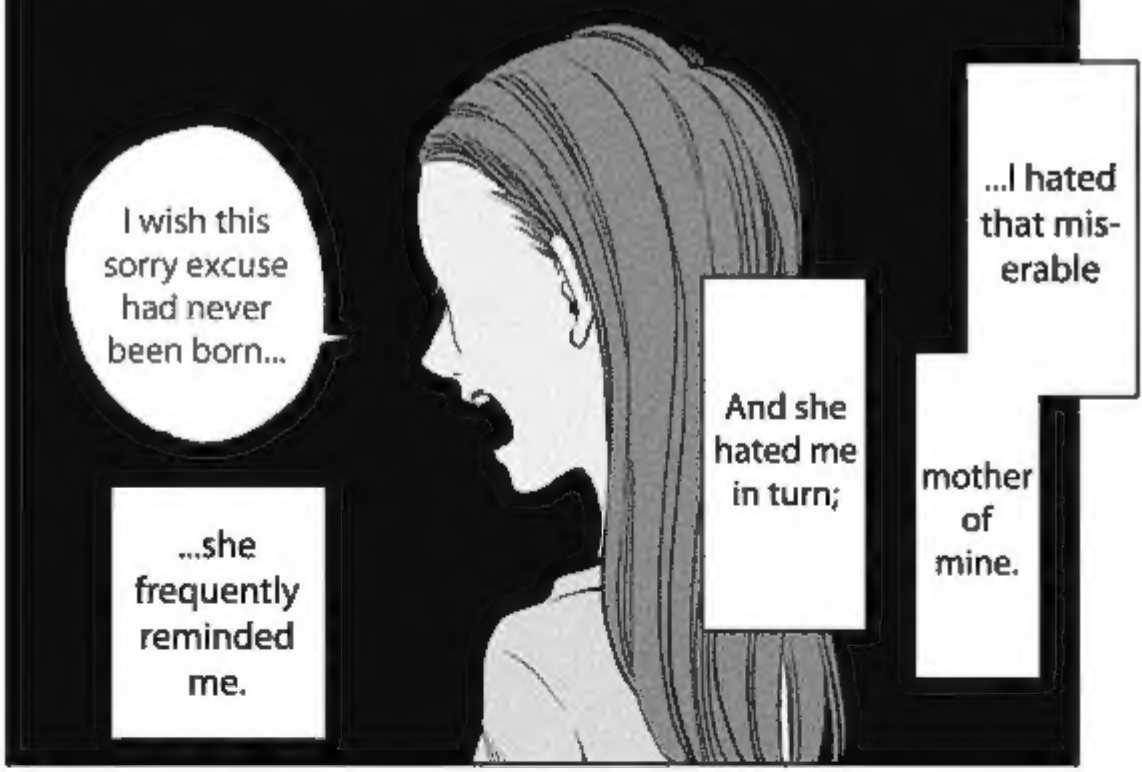
So then, you picked time.
Indeed.
And that brings me to today, living as an observer.

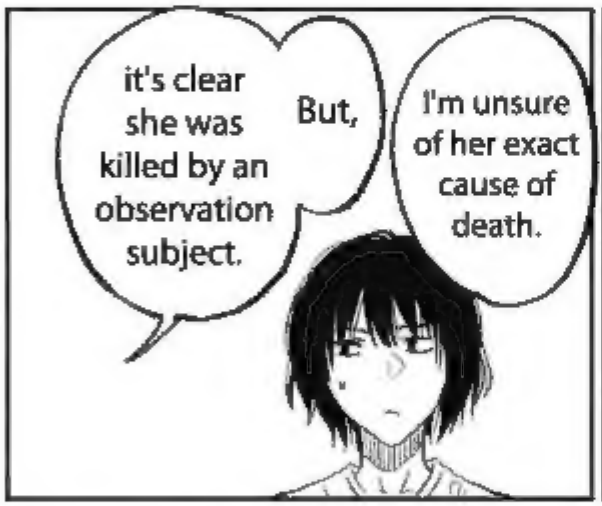
It's a lonely line of work, with many dangers.
But for what it's worth, it has given me deep insight into people's lifestyles and the value of life.


Thinking of it in those terms, it's not such a bad job.
I don't get it.
I think I'd just sell off a life like that.

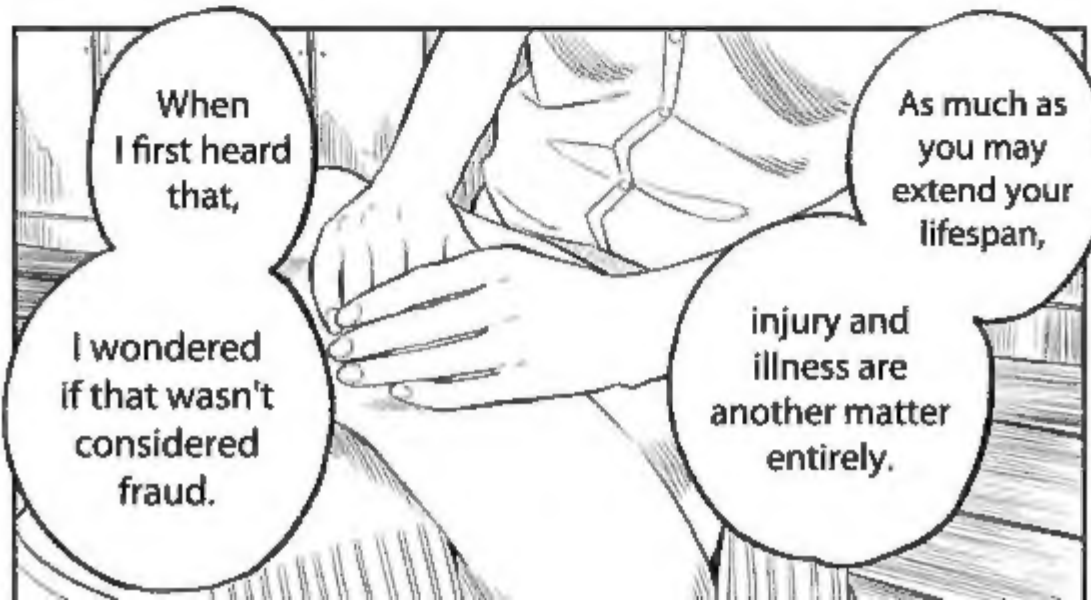
As you have just neglected all of them.
your past relation-ships.
You ought not cling onto
I should hope you understand now?


Why did Ms. Wakana abandon you?
Did you show up to any class reunions?
Did you ever send Ms. Himeno a single letter?
After high school, did you once contact Mr. Naruse?


I wish this sorry excuse had never been born...
...she frequently reminded me.
And she hated me in turn;
...I hated that miserable mother of mine.


But, it's clear she was killed by an observation subject.
I'm unsure of her exact cause of death.

when I was age ten, she died.
A few years into being an observer,


When I first heard that, I wondered if that wasn't considered fraud.
As much as you may extend your lifespan, injury and illness are another matter entirely.

...
Must be a nasty job.

Having to deal with garbage like me all the time.
...Your under-standing is appre-ciated.

Dan-gerous job.
There's no shortage of guys like me, I bet?
Guys who go nuts when they're about to die,
and take their anger out on their observer.

...Yes?
I've got a question for you.

how much of a lag is there before their lifespan's termi-nated?
Once an observer finds their subject doing an "inap-propriate act,"

And why would you be asking?
...

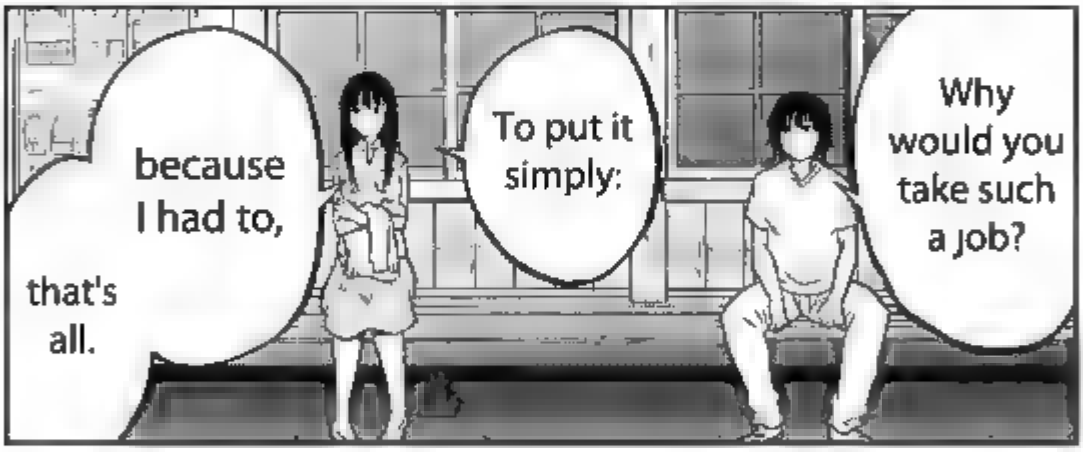
I want to know how long it'd take before I would be killed.
Basic-ally, if I were to get violent with you right here,

...The man who informed me of her death
told me something else of importance.
You have a debt.

The enormous debt my mother left.
There are only three ways
for you to pay it back now

Sell your lifespan,
or sell your health.
sell your time,
Those are your options.

There have been many who go
to much further extremes.
As a matter of fact,
you are more of an easy case.


because I had to,
that's all.
To put it simply:
Why would you take such a job?

...I would have thought
you had no interest in anyone but Ms. Himeno.
...
Tell me the not-simple version.

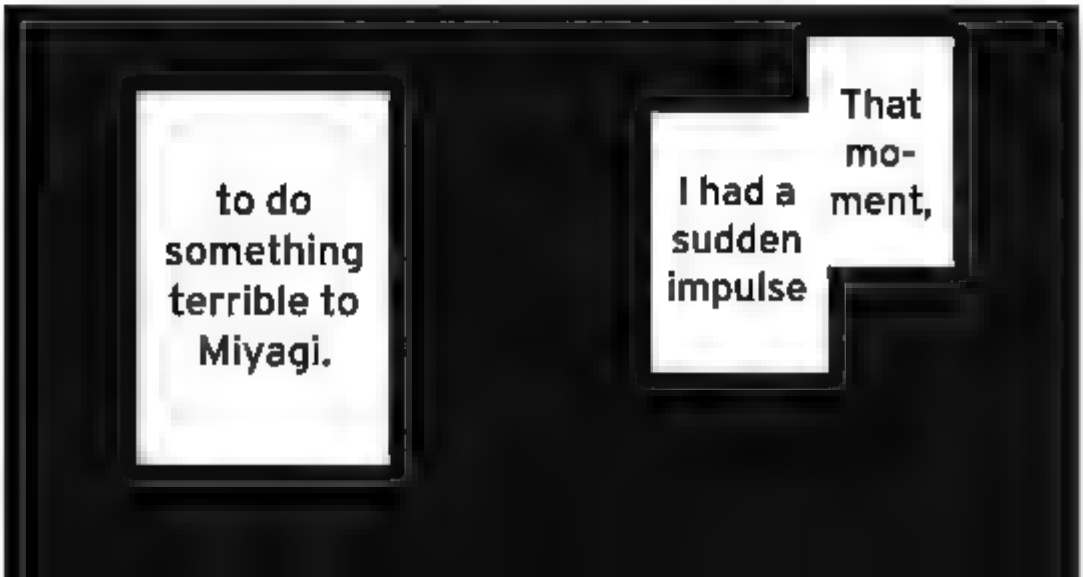
寿命を買い取ってもらった。一年につき、一万円で。

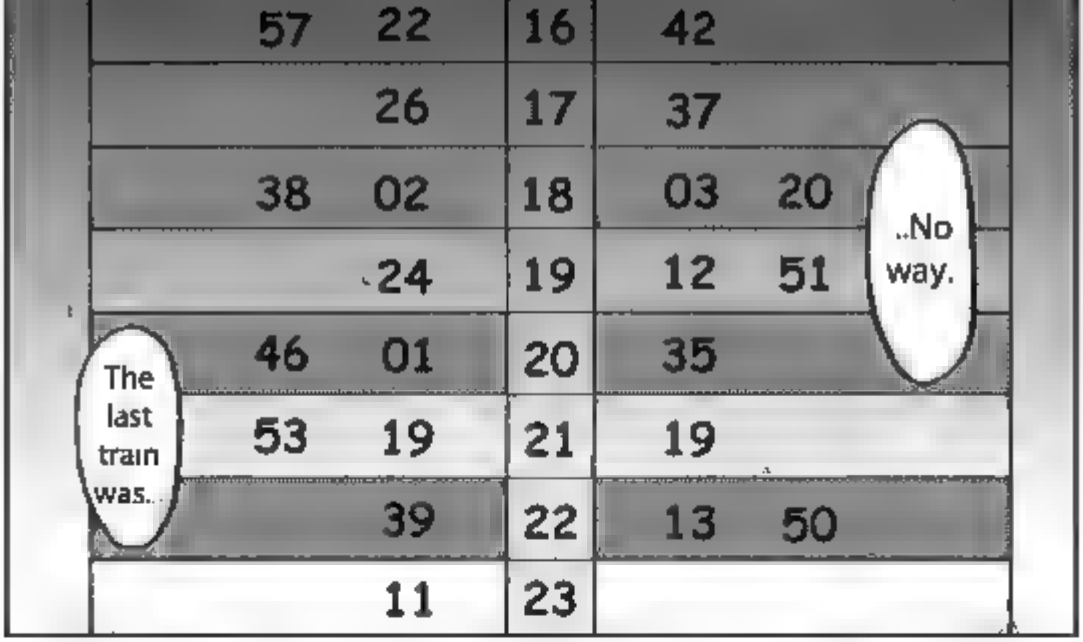
I Sold Off My Lifespan, For 10,000 Yen A Year.

Chapter 6

Original: Sugaru Miaki Manga: Shoichi Taguchi
("Three Days of Happiness" from Media Works Bunko)
Character Design: E9L / Shoichi Taguchi

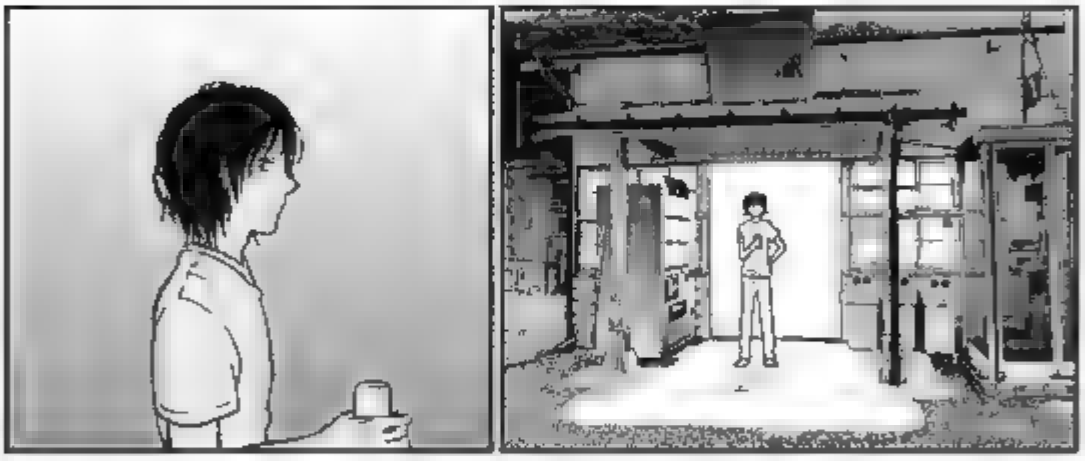
I was just confused.
... Probably,

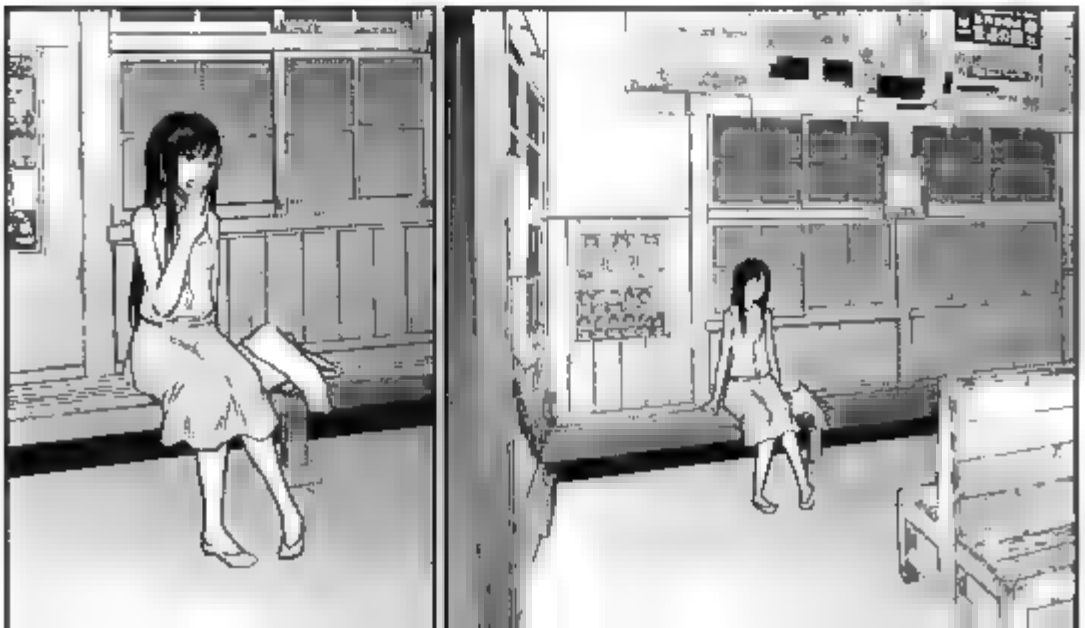

to do something terrible to Miyagi.
I had a sudden impulse
That moment,

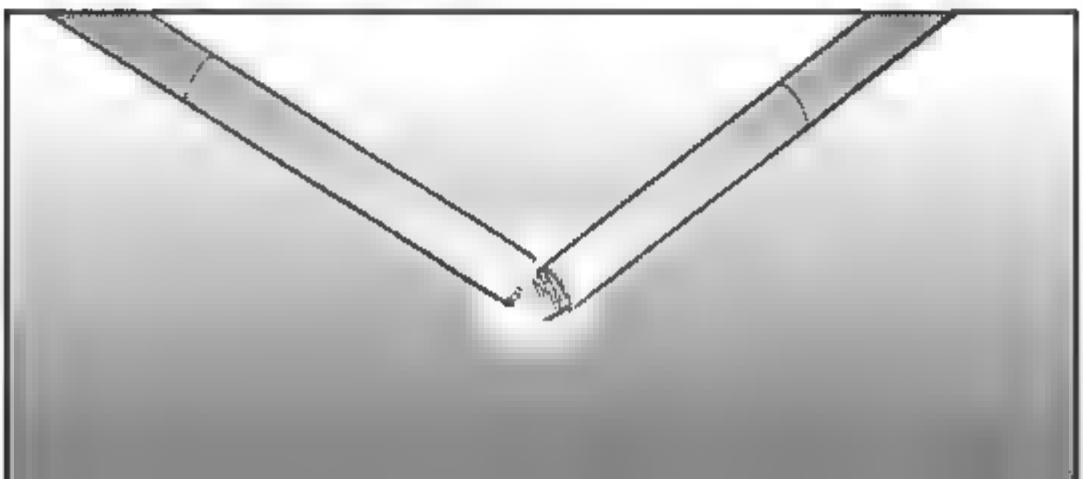

57 22
26
38 02
24
46 01
53 19
39
11
16 42
17 37
18 03 20
19 12 51
20 35
21 19
22 13 50
23
The last train was..
..No way.

Find some way to kill time.
Sorry, we're spending the night here
はあ
sigh
whump

clunk
ガコン



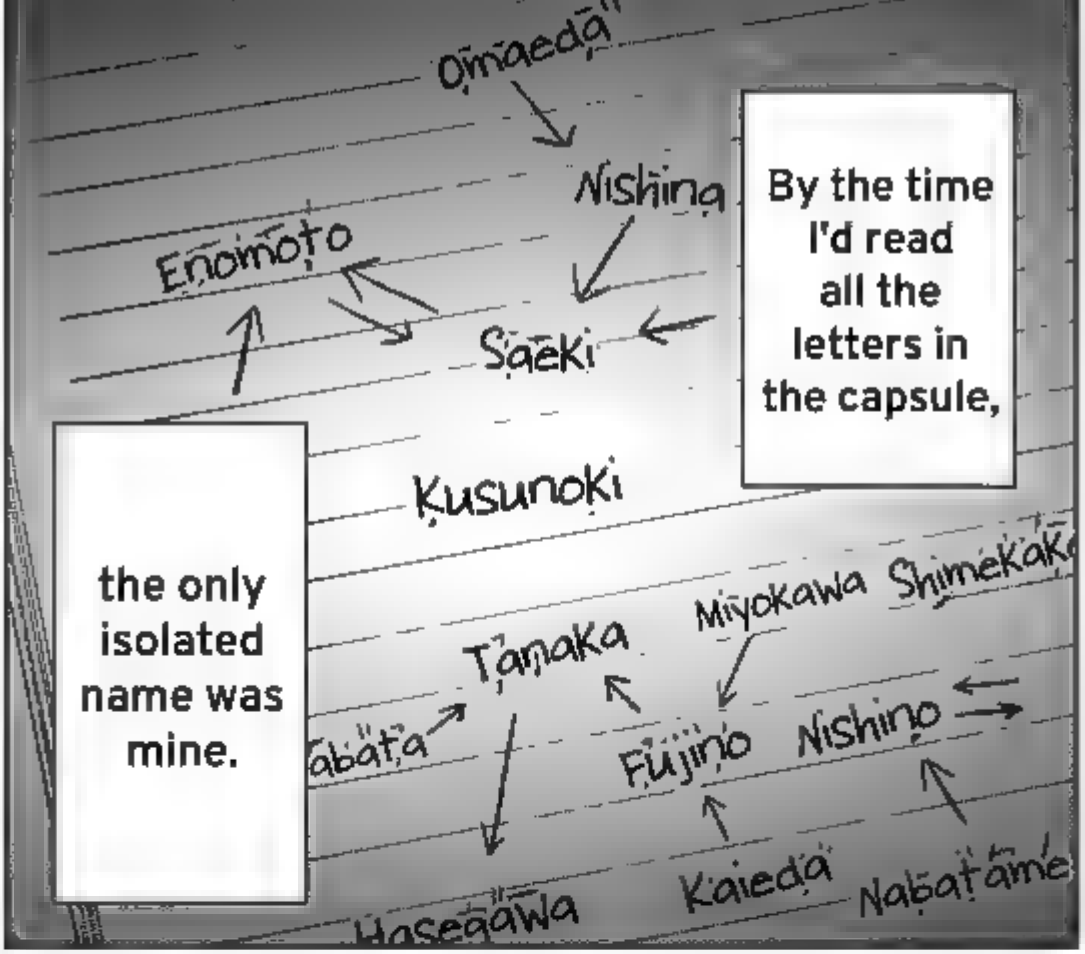




There's no point in living,
I'm an irreconcilable fool.
yet I'm compelled to survive.
because I take after my mother, who bought lifespan and clung to hope.
in essence,
And yet I suppose I can't do so,

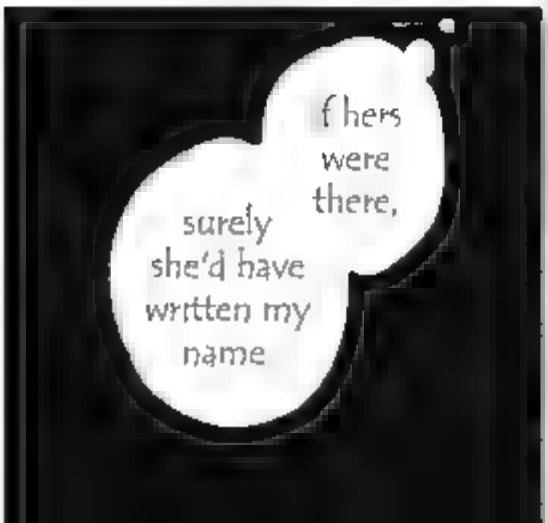
Don't you think?
"Perhaps something good will happen someday."
You see, it's not that simple.
But...

.. Yes,
so do I.
I know a guy who died saying that to himself and getting nothing out of it.


Ōmaeda
Nishina
Enomoto
Saeki
Kusunoki
Tanaka
Miyokawa
Fujino
Nishino
Kaieda
Nabatame
By the time I'd read all the letters in the capsule,
the only isolated name was mine.

If only Himeno's letter were there

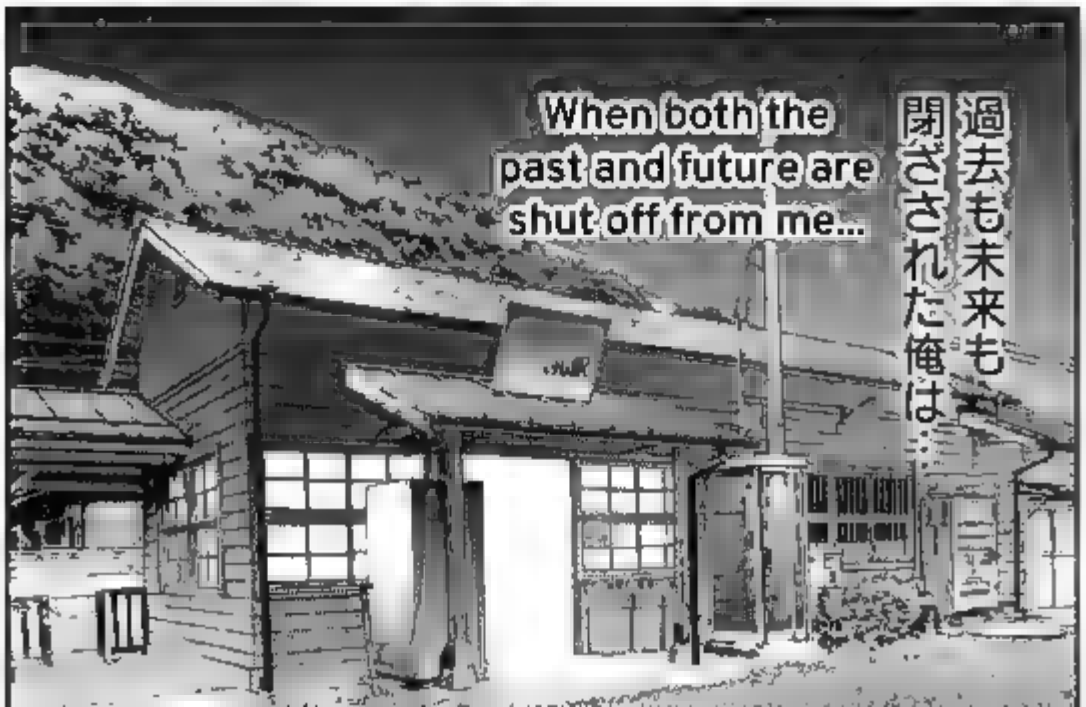
...
...And Ms. Himeno's letter is nowhere to be found.


If hers were there,
surely she'd have written my name

Hahaha...
click
カチッ
click
カチッ
!
click
カチッ

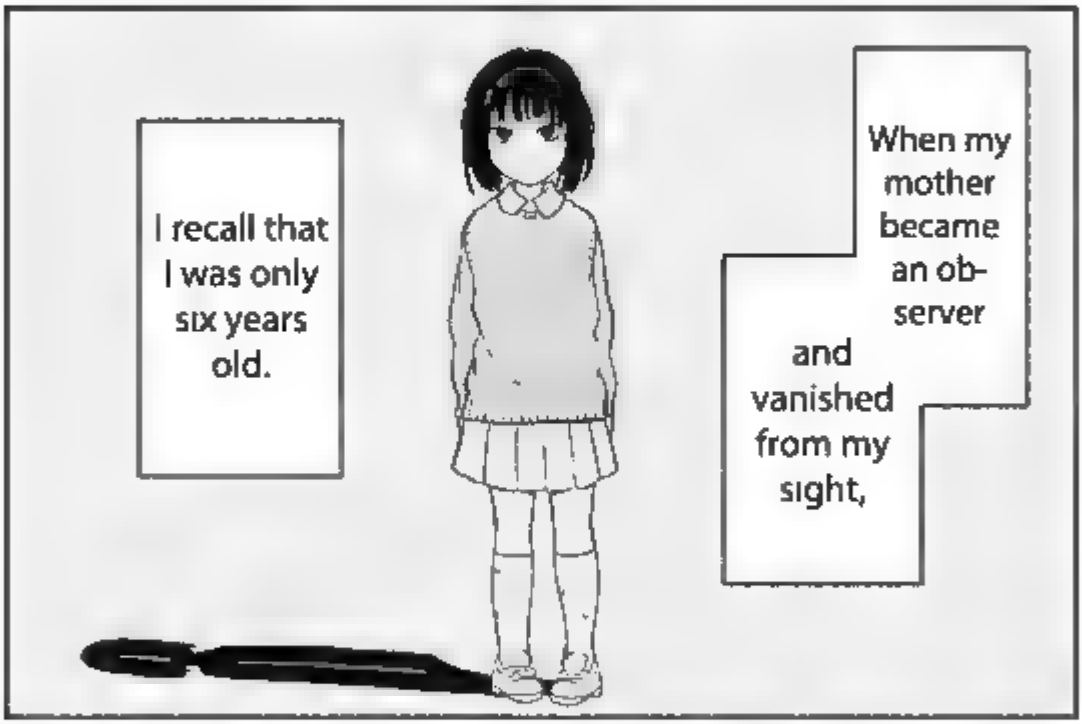
...Pardon the remark, but,
don't you feel that clinging to the past now is asking for too much?

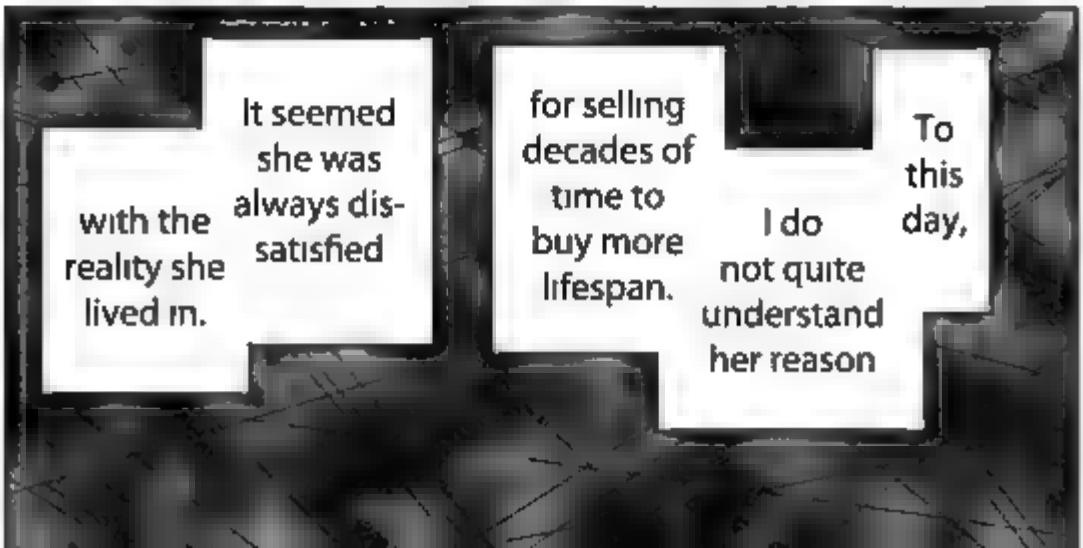
Well then
What do even cling to?

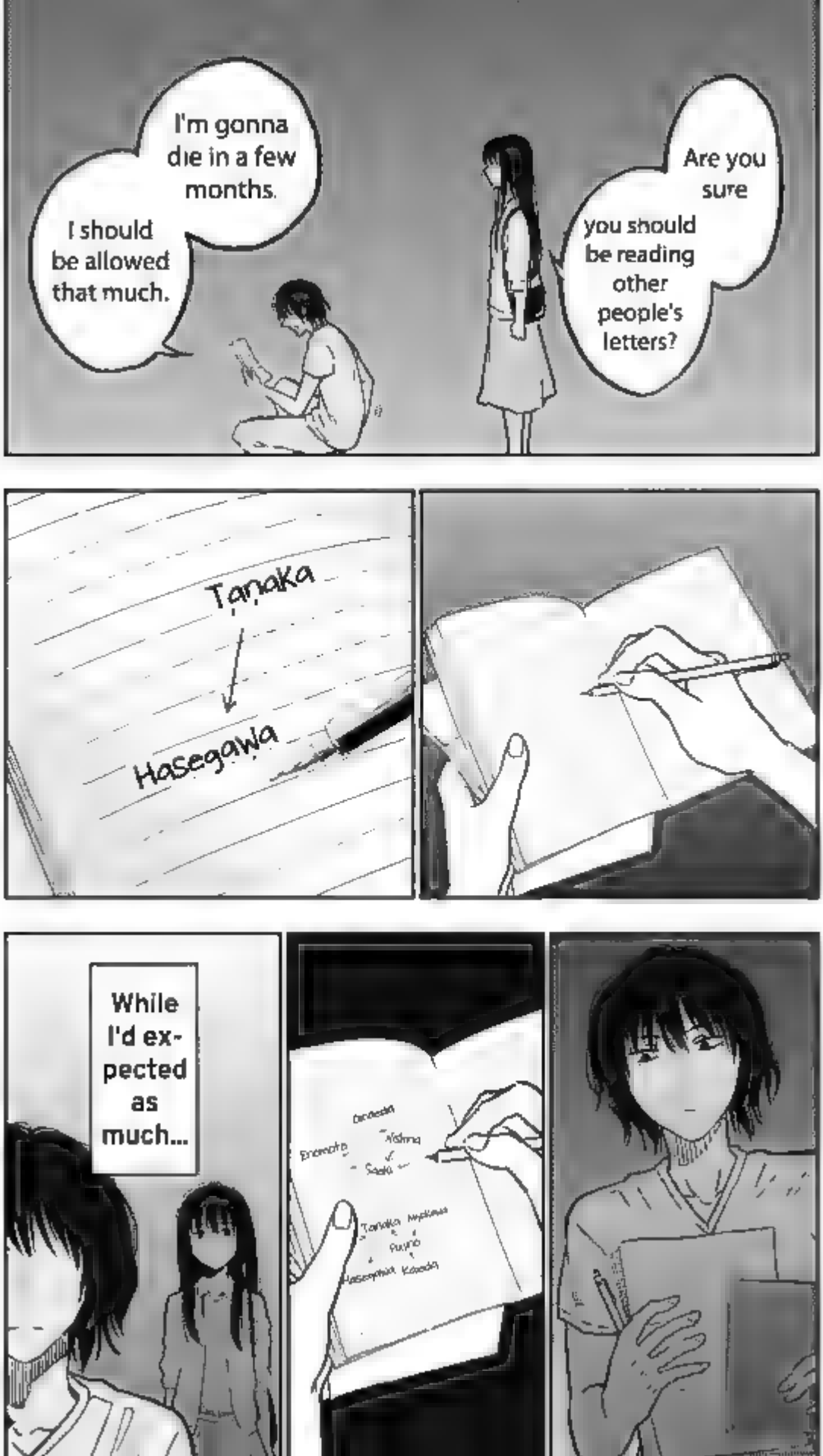

When both the past and future are shut off from me...
過去も未来も閉ざされた俺は…

clatter
My Best Friend
Hasegawa

There's still time
until the train comes, I suppose. .


I recall that I was only six years old.
When my mother became an observer
and vanished from my sight,

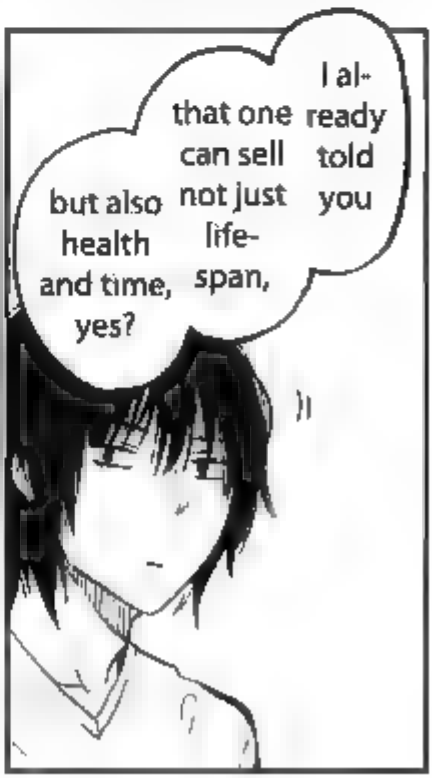

with the reality she lived in.
It seemed she was always dissatisfied
for selling decades of time to buy more lifespan.
I do not quite understand her reason
To this day,

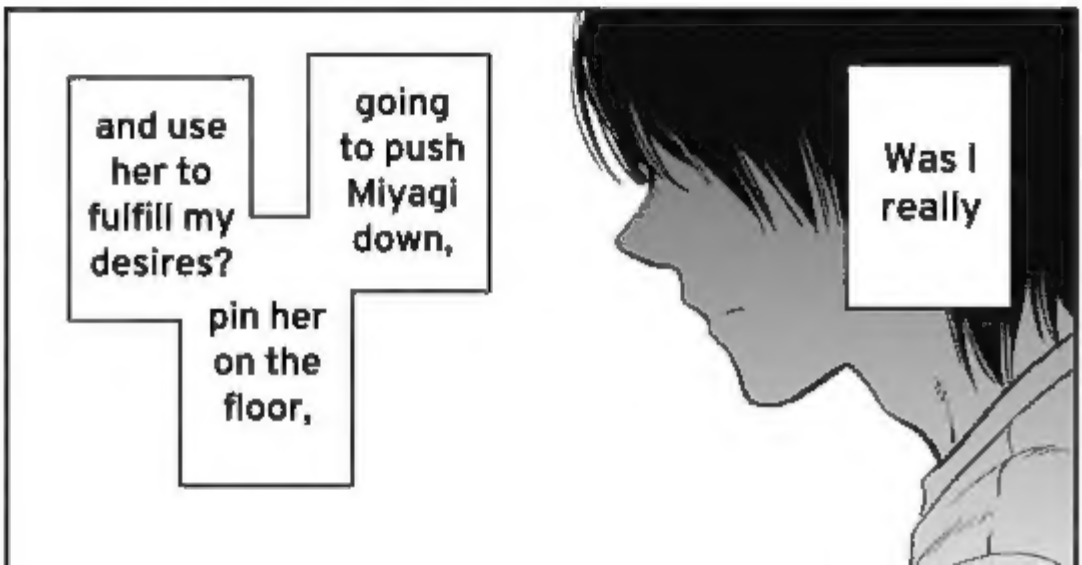

I'm gonna die in a few months.
I should be allowed that much.
Are you sure you should be reading other people's letters?
Tanaka
Hasegawa
While I'd expected as much...

That's not true at all
If I didn't see any charm in you,
I wouldn't have considered what I did earlier.
...Is that right.
Thanks, I suppose

You don't have to talk,
if you don't want to.
No, well,
I have nothing particularly to hide in my past...

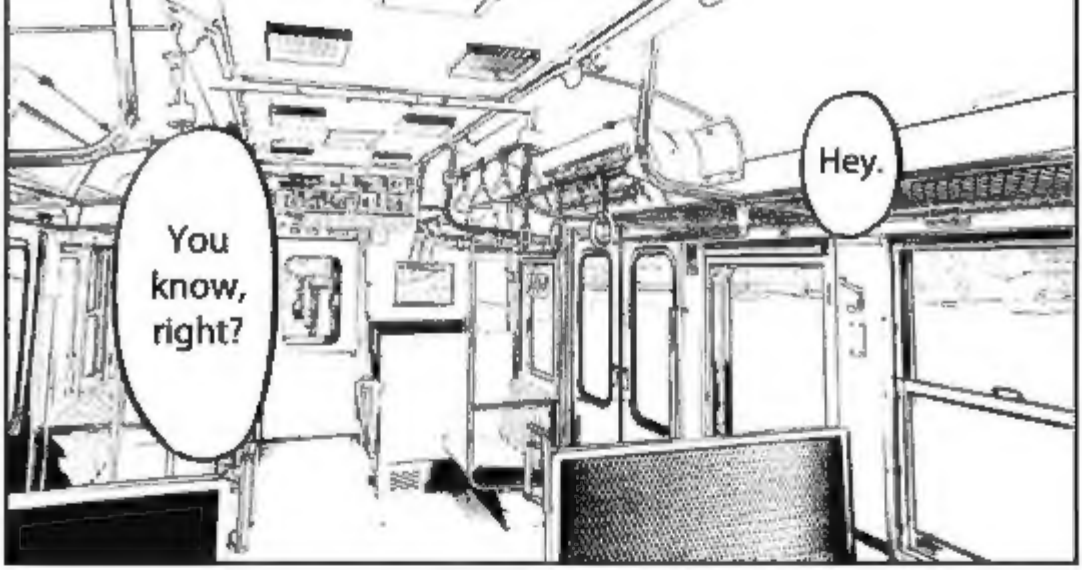
In short,
I sold my time.
Roughly thirty years of it.

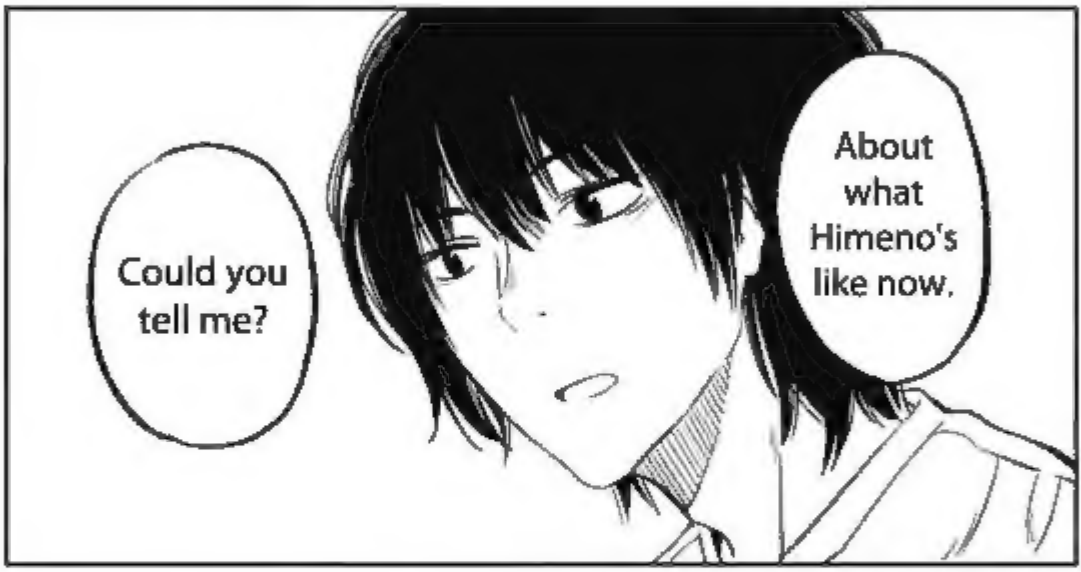

I already told you
that one can sell not just life-span,
but also health and time, yes?


Was I really
going to push Miyagi down,
pin her on the floor,
and use her to fulfill my desires?

Seeing Miyagi relaxing for the first time,
I told myself:

せめて彼女にとって
一番傍にいて楽だった監視対象者として記憶されようと
I'll at least have her remember me as the easiest subject to be around.


You know, right?
Hey.


Could you tell me?
About what Himeno's like now.

Under-stood.
Then I will tell you.
Yeah, yeah.
I still want to know.
...
It will be harsh.

About Ms. Himeno's life
over the ten years you've been apart.